



General	209
Buoyage System	209
Currency	209
Firing Areas	209
Government	209
Holidays	210
Industries	210
Languages	210
Time Zone	210
U.S. Embassy	210

Currency

The new official unit of currency is the Yemen rial, consisting of 100 fils.

Firing Areas

It is reported that military vessels may be encountered exercising in areas centered 50 miles WSW and 18 miles ENE of Aden.

General

Yemen is located in the SW part of the Arabian Peninsula. It is bordered on the N by Saudi Arabia, on the E by Oman, on the S by the Gulf of Aden, and on the W by the Red Sea.

It also includes the island of Suqutra (Socatra), in the Arabian Sea, and the islands of Mayyun and Kamaran, in the Red Sea.

The coastal areas are sandy and flat, while the interior is mountainous.

The climate is mostly desert; hot and humid along the W coast and extraordinarily hot and dry in the E. The W mountain area is temperate and subject to a seasonal monsoon.

Government



Flag of Yemen

Buoyage System

The IALA Buoyage System (Region A) is in effect. See Chart No. 1 for further IALA Buoyage System information.

Yemen was established in 1990 with the merger of the Yemen Arab Republic (North Yemen) and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (South Yemen).

Previously, North Yemen had become independent from the Ottoman Empire in 1918 and South Yemen had become independent from the United Kingdom in 1967.

The President is directly-elected to a 5-year term; a referendum conducted in 2001 extended the term to 7 years. The Prime Minister is appointed by the President.

The Majlis al-Nuwaab (Assembly of Representatives) consists of 301 directly-elected members serving a 4-year term; a referendum conducted in 2001 extended the term to 6 years.

A constitutional amendment passed in 2001 will create the Shura Council, consisting of 111 members appointed by the President. The Majlis al-Nuwaab will continue in existence.

The legal system is based on Islamic law, Turkish law, English common law, and local tribal customary practices.

The official political capital is Sanaa. The economic and commercial capital is the port city of Aden.

Holidays

The following holidays are observed:

Proclamation of the Republic (Unity Day)	May 22
Revolution Day	September 26

Islamic holidays, which are subject to the appearance of the moon, include Eid Al-Fitr (End of Ramadan), Eid Al-Adha (End of Pilgrimage), Hijrah (Islamic New Year), Ashoora, and the Prophet's Birthday.

Industries

Crude oil production and petroleum refining are major industries.

Agriculture is the main occupation. Crops include cotton, millet, qat (a narcotic shrub), and fruits. There is a growing fishing industry.

Languages

The official language is Arabic.

English is widely understood in the commercial city of Aden.

Time Zone

The Time Zone description is CHARLIE (-3). Daylight Savings Time is not observed.

World Time Zone Chart

<http://www.odci.gov/cia/publications/factbook/ref/pdf/802801.pdf>

U.S. Embassy

The U.S. Embassy is situated at Sa'awan Street, Dhahr Himyar Zone, Sheraton Hotel District, Sanaa.

The mailing address is P.O. Box 22349, Sanaa, Yemen.

U. S. Embassy Yemen Home Page

<http://www.usembassy.ye>